

ON THE GENERIC NAME OF A REMARKABLE BIVALVE SHELL FOUND IN THE CONGO.

BY C. F. ANCEY.

In the "Bulletins de la Société Malacologique de France" for 1886, Dr. A. Trémeau de Rochebruné proposed the generic name of *Chelidonura* for the curious species of Iridinidæ described by Dr. Ed. von Martens, under the name of *Iridina* (*Mutela*) *hirundo*, from specimens collected by Mr. Mechow in the Quango, a stream tributary to the Congo. Subsequently, a second species was found in the last named river and described by Dr. de Rochebruné, who then proposed for these shells, which are certainly different from any genus of Iridinidæ, the said name of *Chelidonura*. Unfortunately *Chelidonura* has already been used by M. Adams for a shell of the family Bullidæ, and *Chelidonura*, Rochebruné (non Adams), must therefore be changed to *Chelidonopsis*, Ancey.

The genus *Burtonia*, Bourg. (1883) proposed for different species of Lake Tanganyika, Central Africa, is certainly nearer to *Chelidonopsis* than any other section in Iridinidæ, but they want the dorsal carina and the very curious appendage of the posterior edge of the valves. The true *Mutela* are quite different in shape.

The analogy of several species inhabiting the countries and streams of West Africa and Lake Tanganyika, is not to be wondered at, for the latter belongs to the basin of the Atlantic and *not* of the Indian Ocean, and being (during part of the year), connected with some of the headwaters of the Congo.

Berrouaghia, Algeria, June 11, 1887.

DESCRIPTION OF NEW GENERA OR SUB-GENERA OF HELICIDÆ.

BY C. F. ANCEY.

(Continued.)

XXII.—*Brazieria*, Anc.

"Testa fere stature Helicis constrictæ, Bou-
"bée, lentiformis depressa, imperforata, stri-
"tula, solidiuscula, flavido-cornicola; Spira valde

"depressa, vix convexa. Anfractus 5 planulati,
"sutura lineari divisi; ultimus supra depressus
"et acute angulatus, infra multo magis convex-
"ior, turgidus. Apertura obliqua, angulata,
"lunata, infra convexa, substricta. Peristoma
"intus labiato incrassatum, margines lamina
"elevata juncti."

Type: *Helix velata*, Hombron et Jacq.

Geogr. distrib.: Caroline Islands.

This peculiar type of *Naninidæ* possesses ambiguous characters, and the typical species was placed by Pease, in *Trochomorpha*, a genus which it appears to me not to belong to.

XXIII.—*Chalepotaxis*, Anc.

"Testa characteribus anatomicis peculiaribus
"a Cl. Gredler in diagnosi *Nanine* (?) *infantilis*
"enumeratis prædita. Testa umbilicata, albedo-
"hyalina, fascia unica ultimi anfractus cincta.
"Spira convexo-conica, apice obtusâ; anfractus
"regulariter crescentes; ultimus major, rotun-
"datus, subtus convexus, antice non deflexus;
"apertura haud labiata; peristoma simplex,
"acutum, sinuatum."

Type: *Nanina* (?) *infantilis*, Gredler.

Geogr. distrib.: Central China: Tonkin.

XXIV.—*Oligospira*, Anc.

"Testa ejusdem insulæ *Acavos* commemorans,
"a quibus ultimo anfractus valde tumido, am-
"bitu oblongo et rotundato et anfractibus ce-
"teris multo minus numerosis, celerius crescen-
"tibus et spira depressa, vix elevata nec conica
"discrepat. Anfr. ultimus antice perdeflexus."

Types: H. Waltoni, Reeve; H. Skinneri, Reeve.

Geogr. distrib.: Ceylon.

XXV.—*Crystallopsis*, Anc.

"Testa inter *Papuinæ* et *Geotrochæ*,—et
"Corasias quasi media, tenuis, alabastrina vel
"hyalina, vel fasciis opacis cincta, umbilicata,
"globosa, tenuis, glabra, angulata vel filocincta
"Spira convexa, vel convexo-conica, obtusa;
"anfractus minus numerosi; ultimus maximus,

"subtus convexus, turgidus. Apertura sub-
"obliqua ampla; peristoma late expansum vel
"reflexum, ad columellam late dilatatum, um-
"bilicum tamen plerumque non obtectans."

Types: H. Hunteri, Cox; H. Allasteri,
Cox, etc.

Geog. distrib.: Solomon's Islands (Guadal-
canar, Malanta Islands).

XXVI.—*Sphincterochila*, Anc.

"Testa superne speciebus pluribus generis
"Leucochroæ similis, a quo valde difert singu-
"lari apertura constricta, sinuata incranataque,
"intus interdum hepatica et animali characteri-
"bus, teste G. W. Binney, animali Helicis
"similis. Prope Macularias verisimiliter collo-
"canda."

Types: H. filia, Mouss.; H. Boissieri,
Charp.

Geog. distribution: As far as known, re-
stricted to the vicinity of the Dead Sea, and to
N. Arabia.

To be Continued.

Young Collectors' Corner

The *Succinea Obliqua*, Say, of Fair-
mount Park, Philadelphia, with some
remarks regarding the relationship
of *Succinea Totteniana*, Lea.

BY JOHN FORD.

For a number of years I failed to discover in
the Park a single specimen of the genus *Succinea*,
though many examinations were made by me in
localities favorable to their growth. Mentioning
this fact to G. Howard Parker, then an active
worker in the Philadelphia Academy of Natu-
ral Sciences, he informed me that a few might
be obtained along a rocky ledge on the north
side of the Wissahickon, a short distance east

of Ridge Avenue. Some days afterward we
visited the locality together, and secured about
a dozen specimens all in fair condition. One
year later, in company with Dr. J. Bernard
Brinton, I visited the place again and captured
several more. This was in the morning of a
hot June day in 1886, which we mostly spent
along the upper reaches of the stream. On re-
turning, towards evening, we wandered into
the dry bed of a former pond located between
the carriage way and the stream, and within
a "stone's throw" of the lower dam. This
depression was, perhaps, fifty feet square; with
several large willows standing upon the outer
bank, and a strong growth of weeds covering
the bottom.

While looking for other species supposed to
be there, our attention was attracted to numbers
of *Succinea* feeding upon the plants, and also
upon the willow branches which extended some
twenty feet over the basin. Though somewhat
surprised to find them in such singular quarters
we went quickly to work and secured a large
number before night-fall. Many others were
obtained a few days afterward by the Doctor's
son, Theodore, and a short time later fully a
hundred more fell to my share; making in all,
over 200 specimens, a wonderful number to be
found in so small an area.

All of the shells were transparent, and so
delicate in texture that I at first entertained
some doubts in regard to the species; this feel-
ing of uncertainty being strengthened by the
fact that Professor Gabb does not mention *S.*
obliqua at all in his "Catalogue of the Mollusca
in the neighborhood of Philadelphia," pub-
lished in Vol. 13, Proceedings Philadelphia
Academy of Natural Sciences. A subsequent
examination, however, satisfied Mr. Tryon as
well as myself that they were really *Succinea*
obliqua, Say. But, in opposition to Mr. Tryon's
views, I was and still am of the opinion that
they embrace every character claimed for *Suc-
cinea Totteniana*, Lea, save the occasional
greenish tint, and that no further evidence than
the shells themselves is needed to prove *Suc-
cinea obliqua*, Say, and *Succinea Totteniana*,
Lea, to be one and the same species; allied so
closely indeed, that, the latter cannot in a gen-
eral sense, be justly separated from the former,
even as a variety.